# IT HAPPENS.

Scoop it. Bag it. Trash it.
Save Our Waterways

Dog doo can pollute our waterways. Rain and melting snow or ice flows across yards and trails, collecting in stormdrains that lead directly to streams. Think picking it up is unpleasant? Try drinking it.



## **Bacteria problems**

A single gram of dog waste can contain 23 million fecal coliform bacteria and can spread disease like Giardia and Salmonella. Bacteria from dog waste accounts for up to **20%** of the bacteria in our waterways.

### **Nutrient problems**

Nutrients like nitrogen and phosphorus that are found in dog waste act like a fertilizer in streams. They cause algae to grow which reduces the available oxygen for fish. The more poop, the bigger the potential problem.

#### Be a "Pooper Scooper"

You can make a difference by being a responsible pet owner. Being a "Pooper Scooper" means being a model for others and picking up your dog's waste. Here are 5 tips every Pooper Scooper should know:

- Be prepared: carry poop bags with you.
- Take extra bags so you don't run out (and you can help somone in need).
- Make sure the bag ends up in a trash can.
- When you hike, never leave a bag on the trail there's nobody designated to pick them up!
- Pick it up at home (or hire someone to do it) to keep your yard healthy and to protect our waterways.

#### PICK IT UP

Dog waste has been cited as the 3rd largest contributor of bacterial pollution in urban watersheds. Keep the poop from washing into stormdrains. Scoop it. Bag it. Trash it.

